



IN THE UNITED STATES  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No.: Olympus-13

Applicant: Ralph K. ITO

Serial No.: 09/400,034

Filing Date: September 21, 1999

Title: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR PREPARING A FLUID SAMPLE  
ALIQUOT

Examiner: Matthew O. Savage

Group Art Unit: 1723

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
Washington, D.C. 20231

S I R:

ELECTION WITH TRAVERSE

In response to the Restriction Requirement mailed on August 17, 2001 (Paper No. 5), which set a period for response to expire on September 17, 2001, the applicant elects Group I (claims 1-10) drawn to an apparatus for preparing a fluid sample, with traverse.

REMARKS

*The Restriction Requirement and the Applicant's Election*

The Examiner concluded that the application claims two patentably distinct species of the claimed invention -- claims 1-44 (Species 1) and claims 45-52

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